

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 847

By Swafford

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of William Cranwell “Bill” Deakins of Bledsoe County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of William Cranwell “Bill” Deakins, who so ably served the people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Bledsoe County, Bill Deakins was a highly respected member of his community, having spent many years in public service in several capacities; and

WHEREAS, Bill Deakins was a member of the Bledsoe County Quarterly Court for ten years and served as judge pro-tem from 1979 to 1982; he was elected as Bledsoe County Executive in 1982 and served until 1986; and

WHEREAS, a successful business man, Mr. Deakins also lent his talents as an alderman for the City of Pikeville; and

WHEREAS, committed to improving the quality of life of his fellow citizens, Mr. Deakins’s mission in life was to inspire people, to find the best in everyone, and to make others laugh; he was hailed as a master chief by those who knew him best; and

WHEREAS, born on January 6, 1933, Bill Deakins served his country valiantly as a member of the United States Navy during the Korean Conflict; and

WHEREAS, he rendered sterling service as an educator, coach, and mentor for the young people of Bledsoe County for eighteen years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Deakins proudly expressed his Christian faith and was an active and devout member of his church, which he served faithfully; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to his family, Bill Deakins always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife and was the proud father of three children and doting grandfather of nine grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Bill Deakins leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of William Cranwell "Bill" Deakins, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, as we recognize his many contributions in public service to the citizens of Bledsoe County and this State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Deakins.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.